

REMARKS

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application No. 09/794,499, filed February 28, 2001. Claim 13, a new claim, is presented for examination.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of References (12) to (15) were provided in parent Application No. 09/794,499.

- (1) U.S. 5,173,873
- (2) U.S. 5,343,422
- (3) U.S. 5,347,485
- (4) U.S. 5,715,121
- (5) U.S. 5,768,183
- (6) U.S. 5,774,394
- (7) U.S. 5,841,611
- (8) U.S. 6,104,632
- (9) U.S. 5,361,226
- (10) U.S. 6,219,275
- (11) U.S. 6,613,678

(12) Sakakima et al., "Solidstate Memory Using GMR Films", Journal of the Japan Society of Applied Magnetism, Vol. 20, No. 1 (1996)

(13) Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1997, No. 04, April 30, 1997 & JP 08 321016 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), December 3, 1996


(14) Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1998, No. 10, August 31, 1998 & JP 10 134560 A (VICTOR CO. OF JAPAN LTD), May 22, 1998

(15) Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vo. 016, No 341, July 23, 1992 & JP 04 103014 A (HITACHI LTD), April 6, 1992

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449. Copies of References (10) to (13) are enclosed.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'O' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 50,325

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 71441 v 1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03560.002342.1		APPLICATION NO. N.Y.A.	
				APPLICANT NAOKI NISHIMURA			
				FILING DATE Concurrently Her with		GROUP 2818	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,173,873	12/92	Wu, et al.	365	173	
		5,343,422	8/94	Kung, et al.	365	173	
		5,347,485	9/94	Taguchi, et al.	265	173	
		5,715,121	2/98	Sakakima, et al.	365	158	
		5,768,183	6/98	Zhu, et al.	365	173	
		5,774,394	6/98	Chen, et al.	365	173	
		5,841,611	11/98	Sakakima, et al.	365	113	
		6,104,632	8/00	Nishimura	365	158	
		5,361,226	11/94	Taguchi, et al.	365	171	
		6,219,275	4/01	Nishimura	365	173	
		6,613,678	9/03	Sakaguchi, et al.	438	695	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
		Sakakima et al., "Solidstate Memory Using GMR Films", Journal of the Japan Society of Applied Magnetism, Vol. 20, No. 1 (1996)
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1997, No. 04, April 30, 1997 & JP 08 321016 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), December 3, 1996
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1998, No. 10, August 31, 1998 & JP 10 134560 A (VICTOR CO. OF JAPAN LTD), May 22, 1998
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 016, No 341, July 23, 1992 & JP 04 103014 A (HITACHI LTD), April 6, 1992

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1